

UPDATE



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

ISSUE 14

OCTOBER 2003

OAC Budget Increased

On July 3, 2003, the province announced that the arts sector would receive an additional \$15 million over two years through the Ontario Arts Council (OAC). The new funds will increase OAC's existing allocation of \$25 million – \$7.5 million will be added to the base this year and the other \$7.5 million to the base in 2004/2005.

"This is wonderful news for Ontario's arts community," said Julia Foster, Chair of the Ontario Arts Council. "I wish to acknowledge the hard work of OAC staff and our colleagues at the Ministry of Culture."

"It will allow us to fulfil the priorities of our strategic plan and focus our investment to the organizations that are part of Ontario's key arts infrastructure. It will also enable us to expand our commitment to arts education, individual creators, touring, and audience development," said John Brotman, OAC's Executive Director. "However, I want to caution against unrealistic expectations. Not everyone will see an increase to their grants."

In July, OAC's Board of Directors approved the revised one-year budget.

Ontario Arts Council Celebrates 40 Years

On April 26, 2003, the Ontario Arts Council turned 40. For the duration of the fiscal year, OAC has invited a number of OAC-funded arts organizations to become *ambassadors* in celebrating 40 years of public funding to the arts.

Among other things, OAC's *ambassador* program will raise awareness of arts and the role the arts play in enriching life in our

communities. OAC *ambassadors* have been invited to use their program openings or launches to acknowledge OAC's birthday and the importance of public funding to the arts. OAC has added a monthly anniversary section to its Web site, that features a selected artist from each arts sector and different Ontario regions. The artist is profiled at www.arts.on.ca, as of the 15th of each month.

HIGHLIGHTS

- New Funds for OAC
- Strategic Plan Launched
- OAC Turns 40
- Chalmers Symposium Announced
- First Year of New Chalmers Program
- OAC Revamps Web Site
- OAC/TVO Renew Partnership
- Revisions to Integrated Arts Program
- Board News
- Staffing Update
- Spotlight
- Award News
- Deadlines 2003/2004

Hawkestone Communications has been hired to provide communications support to this initiative. If you are an OAC-funded arts organization or artist and are interested in becoming an *ambassador*, please contact Kirsten Gunter, OAC Communications Manager, at 416-969-7403 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7403 or e-mail kgunter@arts.on.ca

Stability and Strength: OAC Launches Strategic Plan

The exciting news from the Ministry was accompanied by the launch of OAC's new strategic plan, held at the Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art (publisher of *Prefix Photo Magazine*). The plan outlines OAC's overall direction and priorities for the next three years. Every OAC grant recipient in the last two years received a mailed copy in July. The plan is also available in PDF format at OAC's Web site at www.arts.on.ca.

Chalmers Symposium Announced for 2004

Some 200 members of the arts community attended the June 2, 2003, reception honouring the first year's recipients of the **Chalmers Arts Fellowships**. Chair Julia Foster used the occasion to announce OAC's plans for a **Chalmers Symposium**, conceived as a way to extend the reach of the Chalmers program and ensure its long-term impact.

"We are very excited at the prospect of creating a forum in the fall of 2004 for the exchange of ideas on creativity and the arts that will include artists, researchers, and members of the public who value the place of art in our society," said Julia Foster. "The symposium will bring the discussion on the role of the artist to a larger audience."

New Chalmers Program Passes the First-Year Mark

In the first year of the Chalmers program, Arts Fellowships totalling \$773,888 have been awarded to an eclectic spectrum of artists who are challenging the boundaries of their disciplines through experimentation and creation of new work. Emerging, mid-career, and established arts professionals have been funded to research and develop new work. The maximum amount for an Arts Fellowship is \$50,000. Another \$200,079 has been awarded to a group of artists for professional development activities. For a list of the Chalmers program recipients, go to the news release section of the OAC Web site.



Filmmaker, John Greyson and composer David Wall and guest at the June reception for the Chalmers Arts Fellows. The two are collaborating on *Fig Trees*, a video opera which will premiere at the Oakville Galleries on November 21, 2003.

Photo: David Sweeney

TVO Joins in the 40th Anniversary Celebration

TVO and the Ontario Arts Council will collaborate on 40 one-minute spots profiling the work of artists funded by OAC over the past 40 years. The selected artists will celebrate the breadth and diversity of artistic practice that has emerged in the province. TVO will broadcast these interstitials throughout the anniversary year.

OAC Launches New Web Site

The Ontario Arts Council launched its new Web site in early July. The revamped site was designed to offer applicants program information not strictly defined by artistic discipline. This approach better serves artists working in multidisciplinary ways and artists who are not aware of programs for which they might be eligible. More enhancements to the Web site will be added over the coming months. Visit www.arts.on.ca.

Spotlight

The Trout Forest Music Festival in Ear Falls is Ontario's northernmost music festival according to Artistic Director Lloyd Romaniuk. Two hours north of Kenora by car, it draws artists from across the country. The festival boasts significant community support, best illustrated by the 200-odd volunteers from Ear Falls and Red Lake. Some former residents, travel significant distances to come back each year as volunteers.

Eight years ago, Lloyd was inspired by the Winnipeg Folk Festival to start a festival in Ear Falls (pop. 1,100). He is passing on the mentorship support he received from the Winnipeg Folk Festival by providing advice to the newest festival in the region, *Live from the Rock*, in Red Rock, a town east of Thunder Bay. A house concert series in Cochenour, one hour north of Ear Falls, is a successful spin-off to the Trout Forest Music Festival, featuring often-sold-out performances by artists who performed first at Trout Forest.

In 2002, the Trout Forest Music Festival received a \$4,000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

OAC and TVO Renew Partnership to Showcase Film and Video Artists

Last year's successful partnership is being reprised. OAC and TVO will again showcase the work of OAC-funded film and video artists. Filmmaker and OAC's Associate Visual and Media Arts Officer, Annette Mangaard, will interview the selected film and video artists prior to each of their works being shown. These range from one to twenty-five minutes long and run the gamut from dramatic to experimental. Only work that has not previously aired on either TVO or CBC is being considered.

OAC will cover the studio interview costs and TVO will cover the broadcast fees when these works air next summer or fall.

For more information about the OAC/TVO initiative, please contact Annette Mangaard at 416-969-7453 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7453.

Program Revisions to Integrated Arts

Integrated Arts is a projects program that supports artists working in interdisciplinary ways to create a performance or activity. It includes new practices, hybrid forms, and performance. The program has recently been revised. The workshop phases are being replaced with research and development to allow applicants greater flexibility. Music theatre and opera projects are no longer eligible for this program but may be supported through the Music and Theatre sectors. The next Integrated Arts deadline is November 1, 2003. For more information, please contact Annette Mangaard at 416-969-7453 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7453.

Award News

A new award has just been established at the Ontario Arts Council (OAC) in honour of the late singer/songwriter Colleen Peterson's contribution to Canadian folk and country music. The \$1000 award will support and promote the work of Ontario-resident emerging singer/songwriters in the genres of roots, traditional, folk and country music. An Ontario Arts Council selection panel will choose the winner from nominations put forward by the Ontario Council for Folk Festivals. The first *Colleen Peterson Songwriting Award* will be presented at the Ontario Council for Folk Festivals' Conference in Sudbury, October 18, 2003.

Various fundraising events, including a successful benefit concert at Hugh's Room in Toronto, helped establish the \$20,000 Colleen Peterson Songwriting Fund. The Ontario Arts Council Foundation manages the trust's funds.

Award News *(continued)*

The **2003 Pauline McGibbon Award** was presented to theatre director **Kelly Thornton** at the Dora Mavor Moore Awards nominees news conference on May 21, 2003. The Pauline McGibbon Award is given by a jury of theatre professionals to an emerging theatre artist in Ontario who has displayed a unique talent and a potential for excellence. It is presented on a three-year cycle to a designer, director, and theatre craftsperson.

Two student juries from **Rose Avenue Public School** in Toronto, Ontario, announced the winners of the 2003 **Ruth Schwartz Children's Book Award** on May 7, 2003. This year, the family of the late bookseller Ruth Schwartz, doubled the prize money from \$5,000 to **\$10,000**.

Grade 4 students awarded the children's **picture book** prize to *The Night Walker* written by Richard Thompson, illustrated by Martin Springett. The author and illustrator each received **\$3,000**. Author Deborah Ellis received **\$4,000** for her book *Parvana's Journey*, the winner of the **young adult/middle reader** book category.

The **2003 K.M. Hunter Artist Awards** were presented on May 5, 2003. Every year five \$8,000 awards are given to an artist in the fields of dance, literature, music, theatre, and the visual arts. The artists are short-listed by juries from Ontario Arts Council granting programs. The 2003 winners were **Lesandra Dodson** and **Santee Smith** (co-winners in Dance), **Sheila Heti** (Literature), **James Rolf** (Music), **Kelly McIntosh** (Theatre), and **Greg A. Hill** and **David McFarlane** (co-winners in Visual Arts).

Board News

Dr. S. Penny Petrone was appointed to the Board of the Ontario Arts Council on January 3, 2003. She is Professor Emeritus of Education at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, where she lives. Dr. Petrone's specific area of study is Aboriginal Literature in Canada. She has published numerous papers as well as several books on the subject, including *Native Literature in Canada*, *First People*, *First Voices*, and *Northern Voices*. She taught in the English and Education Departments at Lakehead University from 1961 to 1989. Her first experience at the Stratford Festival, not long after its inception, ignited a passionate devotion to theatre. She went on to direct school plays during her early high school teaching days. She has been



Board News *(continued)*

an ardent supporter of Magnus Theatre in Thunder Bay since she attended its first performance in 1971.

In 2002, she won the F.G. Bressani Literary Prize for her memoir *Breaking the Mould*. In 1994, Dr. Petrone was given the Ordine D'Onore by the National Congress of Italian Canadians. In 1992, she was awarded the Order of Ontario. In 1984 she was made an honorary chief by the Gull Bay Ojibwa.

Douglas Brock

was also appointed to the Board of the Ontario Arts Council on January 3, 2003.



In addition to a career in the financial sector that has spanned more than 20 years, Mr. Brock is a committed arts volunteer. From 1995 to 1999 he was the Chair of the Kitchener-Waterloo Opera. Mr. Brock served on the Board of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra from 1982 to 1995 and was its Board President from 1987 to 1989. He was a Board member of the Centre in the Square, Kitchener's highly regarded performance hall, from 1984 to 1986.

Mr. Brock continues to serve on the Board of the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation. He is currently the Vice President of CIBC Wood Gundy, as well as the former Chair of the Wilfrid Laurier University Foundation in Waterloo, where he resides.

Staffing Update

On April 7, 2003, **Eric Dubeau** joined OAC as its new **Franco-Ontarian Arts Officer**, the first officer to come from the francophone music sector. As well as being a working musician, Eric brings a range of skills to the role. He has extensive experience in arts education, having worked in elementary and secondary schools throughout Ontario. He was the program coordinator for Centre Communautaire Franc-Ouest in Ottawa (1998-1999) and was the music program coordinator for the 7th and 8th Franco-Ontarian games (2000-2001). He has served on a number of volunteer boards, most recently as the President of the *Association des professionnels de la chanson et de la musique franco-ontarienne*.

Eric can be reached at 416-969-7427 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7427.

Columnist and artist educator **Jay Pitter** has been hired as OAC's new **Arts Education Officer**. Jay started at OAC on July 28, 2003. In 1994, Jay founded an educational youth theatre collective in Toronto. While on a producing internship in 1997 with Nightwood Theatre Company, she produced *Green is the Colour of Spring*, a main-stage production in association with Young People's Theatre and The Music Gallery. She has developed and implemented curriculum for the Toronto Board of Education and the City of Toronto's arts based programs and, in her role as artist educator, has developed programming for a number of organizations. For the past three years, Jay has been a columnist for CBC Toronto's radio programs *Fresh Air* and *Metro Morning*, and her articles have been published in the *Toronto Star* and *Fireweed* and by Sister Vision Press.

Jay can be reached at 416-969-7428 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7428.

Francophone artists applying to the Ontario Arts Council now have additional assistance from **Josée Bourbonnais** in her newly created role as **Franco-Ontarian Support Coordinator**. She is working with OAC program officers to ensure that francophone applicants have the same access, information, and help as anglophone applicants, and that the applications are adjudicated equitably through the assessment process. Francophone applicants working in non-language-based art forms do not apply to the Franco-Ontarian arts programs (e.g., a francophone visual artist applies to the Visual and Media Arts program).

Josée can be reached at 416-969-7417 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7417.

Cynthia Lickers-Sage, founder and programming director of the imagineNATIVE Aboriginal media arts festival, has accepted a contract to replace **Aboriginal Arts Officer** Denise Bolduc, who has

taken a leave of absence to organize an international Aboriginal Arts festival at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre next summer. In addition to her work with *imagineNATIVE*, Cynthia was the Aboriginal Outreach Coordinator at V Tape, this country's largest independent video distribution centre, from 1994 to 2003. While at V Tape, she became the founder and executive director of the Centre for Aboriginal Media, helping Aboriginal people succeed in the media industry. Cynthia was also the producer/director of the weekly television show *imagineNATIVE* on The Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) for three seasons.

Cynthia can be reached at 416-969-7454 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7454.

Kelly Langgard will be the **Acting Visual and Media Arts Associate Officer** while Lisa Wöhrle is away on maternity leave. Kelly starts on October 20. Kelly has been the Executive Director of the Images Festival of Independent Film and Video for the past four years, as well as the President of the Independent Media Arts Alliance since 2002. She has sat on a number of boards of directors and is currently the Board Secretary for the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre; a board member of Bright-Eyed Inevitable Inc.; and an advisory board member of the Toronto Reel Asian Film Festival. Prior to her work in Toronto, Kelly held various arts management positions in Calgary.

Kelly can be reached at 416-969-7419 or 1-800-387-0058 ext. 7419 as of October 20.

Ontario Arts Council Year 2003/2004 Program Deadlines

NOTE: Grants for individuals are indicated by ▲ Grants for organizations are indicated by ● New Dates *

ABORIGINAL ARTS

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| Aboriginal Artists in Education | Oct 15, 2003 & May 15, 2004 | ▲ ● |
| Aboriginal Arts Projects | Sept 15, 2003 & Mar 1, 2004 | ▲ ● |

ARTS EDUCATION

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| Projects | Nov 1, 2003 & March 1, 2004 | ▲ ● |
| Artists in Education | April 15, 2004 | ▲ ● |
| Arts Education Organizations | April 1, 2004 | ● |
| - Operating | | |

CHALMERS PROGRAM

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Professional Development | *Jan 15, 2004 & June 15, 2004 | ▲ |
| Arts Fellowships | *Jan 15, 2004 & June 15, 2004 | ▲ |

COMMUNITY ARTS

| | | |
|--|---------------|-----|
| Artists in the Community/ Workplace | Sept 15, 2003 | ▲ ● |
| Community Arts Organizations | Mar 15, 2004 | ● |

COMPASS

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|--|---|
| *December 15, 2003, *March 15, 2004, June 15, 2004 | ● |
|--|---|

DANCE

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-----|
| Dance Initiatives | Oct 1, 2003 & Mar 1, 2004 | ▲ ● |
| Dance Organizations | Feb 15, 2004 | ● |

FRANCO-ONTARIAN ARTS

(Programs available only in French)

| | | |
|---|---------------|---|
| Arts Development Organizations | *Feb 15, 2004 | ● |
| Songs and Music | Nov 1, 2003 | ▲ |
| Literature | Dec 1, 2003 | ▲ |
| Publishing | Jan 15, 2004 | ● |
| Distribution/Dissemination of the Arts | Apr 1, 2004 | ● |
| Theatre | Apr 15, 2004 | ● |

LITERATURE

(Programs available only in English)

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Periodicals | June 1, 2004 | ● |
| Book Publishers | Feb 1, 2004 | ● |
| Literary Festivals and Organizations | Apr 1, 2004 | ● |
| Works in Progress | Dec 1, 2003 & Apr 1, 2004 | ▲ |
| Writers' Reserve | | ▲ |

On-going deadlines from October 2003 to February 2004.
Program administered by third-party recommenders.
For more information, contact OAC.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| Integrated Arts | Nov 1, 2003 & Mar 15, 2004 | ▲ ● |
| Multidisciplinary Festivals | Oct 1, 2003 | ● |

MUSIC

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----|
| Popular Music | Dec 15, 2003 & June 15, 2004 | ▲ |
| Commissioning | Oct 1, 2003 | ▲ ● |
| Recording Program for Classical Music | Oct 1, 2003 | ▲ ● |
| Presenter/Producer - Festivals | Nov 1, 2003 | ● |
| Opera | Feb 1, 2004 | ● |
| Choirs | Feb 1, 2004 | ● |
| Orchestras | Mar 1, 2004 | ● |
| Presenter/Producer - Series/Ensembles | Apr 1, 2004 | ● |

THEATRE

(Programs only available in English)

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----|
| Theatre Projects | Feb 1, 2004 & Aug 1, 2004 | ▲ ● |
| Theatre Organizations | Mar 15, 2004 | ● |
| Theatre Organizations - Summer Theatres | Nov 1, 2003 | ● |
| Playwright Residency Program | Apr 1, 2004 | ▲ |

TOURING AND OUTREACH

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| Touring and Collaborations | Oct 1, 2003 & Mar 15, 2004 | ▲ ● |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----|

VISUAL AND MEDIA ARTS

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Artists' Film and Video | Oct 1, 2003 & Apr 15, 2004 | ▲ |
| Grants to Craft Artists | Aug 15, 2004 | ▲ |
| Craft Organizations - Operating | June 1, 2004 | ● |
| - Projects | June 1, 2004 | ● |
| Visual and Media Arts Projects | Jan 25, 2004 & June 15, 2004 | ● |
| Emerging Artists: Film and Video | Dec 15, 2003 | ▲ |
| Artist-Run Centres: Visual and Media Arts | Feb 15, 2004 | ● |
| Grants to Visual Artists | | |
| Emerging Artist (\$3,000) | Jan 15, 2004 | ▲ |
| Mid-Career Artist (\$5,000) | Sept 15, 2003 | ▲ |
| Senior Artist (\$10,000) | May 15, 2004 | ▲ |
| Public Art Galleries - Operating | May 15, 2004 | ● |
| - Projects | May 15, 2004 | ● |
| Exhibition Assistance | | ▲ |

On-going deadlines from September 2003 to February 2004.
Program administered by third-party recommenders.

Ontario Contact 2003, Toronto Centre for the Arts, November 5 - 8, 2003.

For more information, go to the Community Cultural Impressarios' Web site at www.ccio.on.ca.

Questions or comments about UPDATE are welcome. Please contact Kirsten Gunter, OAC Communications Manager at kgunter@arts.on.ca

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